

THE EPISTLE



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from Davison Welch

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Worship
Holy Eucharist
Sunday, 10:30 AM

Coffee and Hospitality
After Service



A Message from the Priest in Charge

The Season after Pentecost

The Church Year has five seasons—Advent, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and "the Season after Pentecost." This year the Month of May brings to its close the season of Easter with Pentecost Sunday on May 31. The first Sunday in the Season after Pentecost is therefore June 7 this year. This year we will celebrate the Last Sunday after Pentecost on November 22. That means that for 25 weeks that encompass some of spring, all of summer and some of fall, the church embraces what it also calls "normal time." While the world enjoys the verdant growth of summer and the harvest of fall, we will be traveling with Jesus as he travels with his disciples. Looking almost exclusively to the Gospel of Mark, we will listen to the lessons he taught them, share the wonder they felt at his miracles, and study the interpretations the Apostle Paul has given to both the things Jesus taught and did. All the while we will be looking for ways to apply what we are learning to the way we live.

There is another calendar operating at the same time, or course. It is the Public School Calendar, and it says that the year is coming to its end, and that summer vacation time is almost here—days of warmth and long evenings and no classes. That means for many there will be relief from the routine of early rising, evenings spent doing lessons and the need to be here in town all the time. Many of us will do some traveling—mostly by car this year according to the folks that study this kind of thing. I suspect that over the summer there will be some Sundays when you are out of town.

Here is an observation. There have been churches everywhere we have gone on our summer trips. Interestingly, those churches have all had plenty of seats available on Sunday mornings when we have visited them.

Our Mission *The mission of St. Paul's is to minister unconditionally to all in the name of Christ through shared worship, teaching, healing and service.*

Our Vision *St. Paul's is called to be an inviting, embracing, nourishing and life-giving fellowship in the family of Christ.*

I invite you to visit the churches in the interesting places you will go this summer. Do so with the thought of capturing ideas that we might use to enliven our worship here at home. Do so with the intention of hearing about Jesus' words and deeds as they are proclaimed by different voices and perhaps even by different Christian traditions. Who knows what a visit to a different church during your vacation might lead to?


We also will be "doing church" here, so when you are in town I also invite you to come to church here at home. We'll listen to Jesus' words, marvel at his miracles, study what Saint Paul has to say about them, and strive to apply what we learn to our lives—all in the midst of the Season after Pentecost.


Faithfully,


Mike+


Episcopal Church Colors

Each church season has its own set of special colors signifying special events and celebrations. You will find these colors in our altar linens and clergy vestments to underscore the season and accentuate our worship.

 **Purple**, or **Blue**, is used during the seasons of Advent and Lent. Purple is a penitential color which is sometimes used for burials.

 **White**, or **Gold**, is used at Christmas, Easter, Ascension tide, Transfiguration and at weddings and baptisms. The colors symbolize joy. These colors are often used now at burials to symbolize the joy of the resurrection.

 **Red**, or **Scarlet**, is used on Pentecost Sunday and on Saint's days (martyrs only). Red is also used for confirmations and ordinations. It symbolizes the "tongues of fire" of the Holy Spirit, as well as blood.

 **Green** is used during the seasons of Epiphany and Pentecost. It is the universal color and symbolizes creation, nature and hope.

 **Black** is used on Good Friday and for Funerals. It symbolizes grief.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is responsible for changing the church colors accordingly and for setting up the altar for Sunday mornings. They are looking for volunteers and will gladly train.

*The good Lord
didn't create
anything without
a purpose, but
mosquitoes
come close.*

Rummage Sale Results

The Spring Rummage sale was held May 9 and netted a profit of more than \$1,600. Thank you to all the people that helped with sorting, selling and cleaning up.



Going Green

Look for blue recycle bins in the offices and at the exits to the sanctuary. If you don't take your bulletin home with you, please place it in a bin. Please no tissues or other miscellaneous items in these bins...paper only. Mary Arnaut has graciously offered to empty these bins on a regular basis.

Do you have ideas on how we can go greener? Please see Dianne, Mary or any Vestry member with your ideas.

Property Committee



Matt Dry has completed his Eagle Scout project, The Meditation Garden.

Ann Bertucci - Bissonnette, Jim Warner & Ruth Warner have been spending time on the grounds, thatching, cleaning and mulching. Thank you for their hard work.

Dave Dry has painted two benches for the labyrinth area and patched the walkway. Thank you, Dave.

Jim Warner has insulated the pipes in the "Godly play area" on the ground floor and replaced the ceiling tiles.

Soon we will have ceiling fans in the Sanctuary. Just in time for summer.

As you can see we are moving forward and looking good.

What is the vestry of St. Paul's up to with regard to Local Outreach?

St. Paul's Vestry has been having discussions about expanding our existing outreach programs. One area of investigation is how we at St Paul's can better meet the needs of our local Hopkinton neighbors who may be experiencing financial hardship, especially in this time of economic recession. One concept under discussion is starting a "Friends and Neighbors Fund" which would target helping Hopkinton 'families in need'.

David Spengler suggested that one aspect of local outreach might be a "Community Supper" program designed to: (1) Provide a delicious 'free-will-donation' meal on a regular schedule, and (2) raise money from donations to the meals program to fund our "Friends and Neighbors Fund".

In theory, people with jobs and healthy finances would attend the "Community Supper" to both help a neighbor with a supper donation and enjoy a restaurant quality dining experience. Families experiencing economic hardship would also get a restaurant quality family dining experience at little or no cost and perhaps network about potential job opportunities. David Spengler is currently investigating both the need for, and the feasibility of this Community Supper concept. He has met with Cheryl Ann Lambert from "Project Just Because" to better understand the need in Hopkinton.

In conclusion, there does appear to be demand for the Community Supper concept. A multi-church ecumenical organizational program would likely be needed. More investigation is needed to determine the feasibility of the facilities, resources and operational requirements.

Please note, we have not yet had the Ecumenical presentation and discussion on this "idea" so there are a lot of "unknowns". Input from the congregation is highly desirable because actually doing a "community Supper" would require lots of volunteer support. Is this concept something you will volunteer to help with? Please see Fr. Mike, Dave Spengler or any vestry member.

*We are called to
be witnesses,
not lawyers
or judges.*

Discernment Process Nears Completion

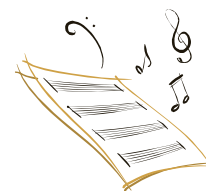
In October 2005, Father Mike Billingsley became St Paul's Priest in Residence. Following several productive years and the development of a collaborative ministry, he was appointed Priest in Charge of the Metrowest Collaborative by the bishop in January, 2008. His duties included both St. Paul's and Christ Church, Medway.

Most recently, St. Paul's and Christ Church have initiated discussion regarding a joint call for a full time rector, Father Mike Billingsley. The wardens and parish representatives of both churches have been discussing the details of this "call" for several months. A joint St. Paul's and Christ Church vestry meeting will be held in June to finalize a decision regarding the call for a rector. The new position of rector would result in a more permanent position for Father Mike.

St Paul's Choir

Carol Spengler relays her thanks to the choir for their loyalty and dedication to providing service music each Sunday! And, we the congregation love it!!

Special thanks to the newly created St. Paul's Chamber Players, young instrumentalists who have been enhancing our music. Members of this group are Casey Rector, Jessica Rector, Kyle Rector, Rebecca Main, Timothy Bloomer and Samantha Jacobson. And, we the congregation love it!!



Adopt a Platoon® — Soldier



Donations are coming in steadily for our soldier. We were able to get a packed box in the mail on the 15th of April. Thank you to everyone that donated, keep up the good work.

Donating does not mean you are supporting the war; rather you are supporting one of our soldiers who is over there for reasons beyond his/her control.

The informational meeting on April 13th attracted by 6 parishioners and 6 non-parishioners. One couple was from a non profit group gathering information to adopt more than one soldier. Other's were there inquiring about adopting their own soldier or to participate in the pen pal effort. Overall, the meeting was quite successful.

Adopt a Platoon® — Humanitarian Mission/Disaster Relief Campaign — Central and South America



If you're not comfortable donating to our specific soldier here's another venue for you...a non combat campaign that provides support for US troops around the world.

Please reach out and help our Troops who deploy throughout Central & South America to conduct humanitarian missions and disaster relief on behalf of our Nation. Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen deploy to Central and South America and are away from their families for long periods of times and need to know that their Nation has not forgotten them. The commanders for these deployed Troops understand fully that AdoptaPlatoon's focus is for our Troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan but request if it is possible to acknowledge them and help with some of the needed items, they would be deeply appreciative. There are approximately 60 U.S. Troops deployed to this unit 20 of them are females. Due to security reasons, individual Service Members' names cannot be given but they would be so deeply grateful for support as a whole unit.

FOOD/BEVERAGE: Lunch Meat (canned), variety packs of cereal, Kashi Bars/Cereals, Healthier selection of microwavable foods, Hispanic Food Products (Rice, Beans), Club Crackers, Jalapeño Cheetos, Café Bustelo, "To-Go" drink packets (tea, crystal lite), coffee creamer, tea/flavored hot cocoa, honey, salad dressing, Soy Sauce, Louisiana Hot Sauce w/ Red Dot, Olive Oil more "sauces"/marinades BBQ sauces, canned vegetables, prepackaged cookies. **HYGIENE ETC:** Man Scent Liquid Soap (AXE), Man Shampoo (Manpoop), Cosmetics, Lip-gloss, Nail Polish**

Floss threaders for bridges, Floss-n-Toss, Listerine, ACT Fluoride Rinse, Soft Toothbrushes, hair rollers Men's shaving supplies (sensitive skin), MISCELLANEOUS: Mini Truckin', Truckin' or Sport Truckin' Magazines, Shower Hooks, Shower curtains, Shower Caddy, New DVD releases and CD Music (all kinds). Baseball caps/hats (Nike, Adidas, Puma, etc), Rain Gear, Umbrellas, eyeglass repair kits, Board Games, Glade Air fresheners (gel cones).

To donate to this cause, please see Dianne Belamarich for mailing instructions.

Life at St. Paul's . . .

KEY EVENTS

May 31 - Teacher appreciation Sunday

June 7 - Last day of Sunday school

June 13 – Joint Vestry/Discernment Committee Retreat

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

First Sunday of the month: Food Pantry Collection **FP**

Second Sunday of the month: Potluck after Service **PL**

15th of each month – Adopt a Soldier items mailed. **AS**

First Wednesday of the month: Vestry Meeting **V**

2009

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	V	4	5	6
FP	8	9	10	11	12	13
PL	AS	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			V	2	3	4
FP	6	7	8	9	10	11
PL	13	14	AS	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
FP	3	4	V	6	7	8
PL	10	11	12	13	14	AS
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					